



www.onthinktanks.org

## UNIT 8 LINKS

---

### **Those six little rules, The Economist, 2013**

<https://www.economist.com/blogs/prospero/2013/07/george-orwell-writing>

### **How to write a communications strategy, ODI, 2005**

<https://www.odi.org/publications/5186-planning-tools-how-write-communications-strategy>

### **Defying gravity: why the 'submarine strategy' drags you down, WonkComms, 2017**

A lot of think tanks and research organisations end up using a submarine strategy. They don't do it deliberately. It's just what happens, by default, in the absence of a communications strategy.

<https://wonkcomms.net/2017/08/16/defying-gravity-why-the-submarine-strategy-drags-you-down/>

### **Taking think tank communications to the next level: figuring out where to begin, On Think Tanks, 2013**

Brilliant blog series that covers high-level strategic advice and discussions about key research communication issues, with the messy reality of organisational change.

<https://onthinktanks.org/articles/taking-think-tank-communications-to-the-next-level-a-preface-to-a-new-series/>

### **From comms chaos to calm: my year-long journey, WonkComms, 2016**

Insightful piece on setting up communications functions from scratch.

<https://wonkcomms.net/2016/02/11/from-comms-chaos-to-calm-my-year-long-journey/>

### **After Action Reviews: the power of the 'feedback loop', WonkComms, 2016**

My favourite kind of meeting is an 'after action review'. It's that meeting when you get the team back together again, once the dust has settled, and you talk about *whathappened*, *why* it happened, and *how* it could have gone better.

<https://wonkcomms.net/2016/10/30/after-action-reviews-the-power-of-the-feedback-loop/>

### **Four questions to assess your research communications impact, On Think Tanks, 2016**

<https://onthinktanks.org/articles/four-questions-to-assess-your-research-communications-impact/>

**Monitoring your communications: try this, On Think Tanks, 2017**

By design, public policy research is aimed at change. It is basically unfinished unless key findings are packaged and disseminated so that they have a chance to feed into the policy debate. To influence some sort of positive change. With this in mind, tracking the impact of research, or at the very least understanding *who* is accessing it and *how*, should be a regular part of what thinktankers do.

<https://onthinktanks.org/articles/monitoring-your-comms-try-this/>

**Research uptake: what is it and can it be measured?, On Think Tanks, 2013**

What is research uptake anyway?

<https://onthinktanks.org/articles/research-uptake-what-is-it-and-can-it-be-measured/>

**A pragmatic guide to monitoring and evaluating research communications using digital tools, On Think Tanks, 2012**

<https://onthinktanks.org/resources/a-pragmatic-guide-to-monitoring-and-evaluating-research-communications-using-digital-tools/>

**Made to stick: why some ideas survive and others die, Brand Genetics, 2014**

A great summary of Chip Heath and Dan Heath's book.

<https://brandgenetics.com/made-to-stick-why-some-ideas-survive-and-others-die-speed-summary/>